

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 IO-12

H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ P: DJCARPENTER: PP

5/8/73 EXT 22538

APPROVED BY EA/ P: AHROSEN

EA/ J - MR. CAMPBELL

OASD/ PA - CMDR. LORFANO

----- 007235

O R 081854 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

INFO COMUS JAPAN

SECDEF

CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS, JA, CX

REF: TOKYO'S 5560

SUBJECT: ALLEGATION RE US MARINES TO CAMBODIA

1. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE BETWEEN NEWSMAN AND DOD
SPOKESMAN FRIEDHEIM TOOK PLACE AT PENTAGON NEWS
BRIEFING ON APRIL 19:

Q. WHAT ABOUT THIS REPORT THAT MARINES ARE LEAVING
OKINAWA AND GOING TO CAMBODIA?

A. WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW SINCE YOU'VE EMBARKED WITH
THEM, MARINE BATTALION LANDING TEAMS NORMALLY ASSIGNED
TO THE SEVENTH FLEET. THEY'RE STILL THERE. THEY
EMBARK AND ROTATE FROM TIME TO TIME AND THAT'S WHAT
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THEY' VE BEEN INVOLVED IN. THERE WAS A NUMBER OF
QUERIES YESTERDAY THAT INDICATED THE FOURTH MARINE
DIVISION WAS ENROUTE TO CAMBODIA, TO WHICH I REPLIED
" NONSENSE" AND WHICH STILL HOLDS TODAY.

Q. YOU LEGALLY CAN' T PUT MARINES INTO CAMBODIA, CAN
YOU? SO THE QUESTION DOESN' T ARISE.

2. BY WAY OF ELABORATION ON FRIEDHEIM' S REMARKS, YOU
MAY TELL GOJ THAT ONE OR TWO BLTS ARE NORMALLY EMBARKED
ON SEVENTH FLEET VESSELS AT ALL TIMES. THEIR PRESENCE

WITH FLEET IS NORMAL AND CONTINUING ASPECT OF FLEET
OPERATIONS AND HAS BEEN SO SINCE AT LEAST 1966. ROGERS

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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